

US Serial No. 09/842,930
Claims for Examiner's Amendment

1-23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) A purified mammalian HARE, comprising:

a protein which is able to specifically bind at least one of HA, chondroitin and chondroitin sulfate, the protein being purified to homogeneity and comprising a sequence ~~having at least about 76% sequence identity to~~ **as set forth in** SEQ ID NO:2.

25-41. (Canceled)

42. (Currently Amended) A purified composition, wherein the purified composition comprises a functionally active HARE polypeptide, wherein the functionally active HARE polypeptide is purified to homogeneity and has an amino acid sequence ~~that is at least about 76% identical in sequence to~~ **comprising** SEQ ID NO:2.

43-87. (Canceled)

88. (Currently Amended) A purified mammalian HARE comprising:

a protein having a molecular mass in a range of from about 175 kDa to about 190 kDa which is able to specifically bind at least one of HA, chondroitin and chondroitin sulfate, wherein the HARE protein is purified to homogeneity and comprises a sequence ~~having at least about 76% sequence identity to~~ **as set forth in** SEQ ID NO:2.

89-127. (Canceled)

128. (Currently Amended) A recombinant mammalian HARE protein which is able to specifically bind at least one of HA, chondroitin and chondroitin sulfate, the recombinant mammalian HARE protein produced by a process comprising the steps of:

providing a recombinant host cell comprising a vector containing a recombinant DNA segment encoding a mammalian HARE protein comprising a sequence ~~having at least about 76% sequence identity to~~ **as set forth in** SEQ ID NO:2;

culturing the recombinant host cell under conditions that will allow for expression of the recombinant DNA segment, thereby producing the recombinant mammalian HARE protein which is able to specifically bind at least one of HA, chondroitin and chondroitin sulfate; **and**

purifying the recombinant mammalian HARE protein to homogeneity.

129. (Previously Added) The recombinant mammalian HARE protein of claim 128 wherein the protein has a molecular mass in a range of from about 175 kDa to about 190 kDa.

130. (Previously Added) The recombinant mammalian HARE of claim 128 wherein the recombinant protein is able to specifically bind and endocytose at least one of HA, chondroitin and chondroitin sulfate.

131-145. (Canceled)

146. (New) A recombinant mammalian HARE protein which is able to specifically bind at least one of HA, chondroitin and chondroitin sulfate, the recombinant mammalian HARE protein produced by a process comprising the steps of:

providing a recombinant non-rat host cell comprising a vector containing a recombinant DNA segment encoding a mammalian HARE protein comprising a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2;

culturing the recombinant non-rat host cell under conditions that will allow for expression of the recombinant DNA segment, thereby producing the recombinant mammalian HARE protein which is able to specifically bind at least one of HA, chondroitin and chondroitin sulfate.

147. (New) The recombinant mammalian HARE protein of claim 146 wherein the protein has a molecular mass in a range of from about 175 kDa to about 190 kDa.

148. (New) The recombinant mammalian HARE of claim 146 wherein the recombinant protein is able to specifically bind and endocytose at least one of HA, chondroitin and chondroitin sulfate.